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20 MAY 1963

TS16346/P-2

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: (U) Status of CIA/DIA Panel for the Reappraisal of Soviet Ground Forces

1. The following information has been forwarded in that we consider it appropriate that you be brought up to date on the current status of the CIA/DIA Panel created to produce a joint Soviet ground forces study.
2. This action was started by your memorandum to the Director of Central Intelligence on 13 February 1963 stating "I believe that we need a new and thorough study of the problem by CIA and DIA. . . Such a study should reevaluate the estimates and assess the ranges of uncertainty concerning the following aspects of the Soviet ground forces: manpower allocation, training, and utilization; equipment inventories, annual procurement increments, and procedures for acquiring, storing, and handling equipment; and quality of ground forces in terms of firepower, mobility, readiness, manning levels, logistics, etc."
3. The Director of Central Intelligence responded by memorandum to you on 8 April 1963 with a subsequent reply by you on 23 April.
4. Since March several meetings have been held with CIA representatives. At the next meeting of the CIA/DIA Panel, DIA is to table a study "Soviet Bloc Ground and Tactical Air Forces" (Attachment 1) which was completed to meet a 15 May deadline as requested in your memorandum of 12 January 1963 to the DIA for such a study. We were formally relieved of this obligation by your memorandum of 12 April 1963 "Soviet Conventional Force Estimates (C)" to insure that DIA resources would not be diluted in the joint CIA/DIA Panel effort. However, the study had been completed in draft by this date, and copies are to be made available to various elements of the DOD at the working level to meet their current and continuing requirements.
5. The DIA Proposed Terms of Reference for the Panel will also be tabled at the next meeting of the Panel (Attachment 2). These Terms of Reference provide for an examination of all the evidence from all sources. This will include a source not used previously even in the DIA study "Soviet Bloc Ground and Tactical Air Forces." These terms will also provide for CIA/DIA co-chairmanship in recognition of the resources available and the competence of existing organizations within CIA and DIA to develop conclusions to meet your requirements, and provide for two reports. The first is an interim report expected

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to be completed in August with the final report by about 1 December 1963. CIA/DIA contributions to the Panel for these reports are scheduled in the attached Terms of Reference by 1 July 1963. Due to the use of all-source information, it is also expected that new priorities in collection and processing of information will be established.

6. Further status reports on the action of this Panel will be forwarded as developed.

/s/ WILLIAM W. QUINN  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Deputy Director

2 Atchs  
1. DIA Rpt on Sov Bloc  
Ground & Tac Air Forces (TS)  
2. DIA Terms of Ref  
Reappraisal of Sov Ground  
Forces (S)

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